

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Ms Carney

to Minister for Justice and Attorney-General

Estimated Cost Per Solicitor Hour

I would be grateful if you would provide the answers to the following questions in relation to the Justice Department's Budget for 2004-05. In order to assist you, please note that this question relates to output group: **1.0 Legal Services (1.1: Solicitor for the NT)**.

1. In BP#3 for the 2002-03 financial year, the estimated cost per solicitor hour was \$152, rising to \$161 for the estimate in 2003-04. The figure of \$152 was corrected at last estimates (p184, hansard) and it was estimated to 'come in between \$111 and \$128' according to Terry Dreier. Was the figure the \$130 that appears in the estimate for 2003-04.
2. In BP#3 for the 2004-05 financial year, the estimated cost per solicitor hour for 2004-05 is revised further downwards to \$125. Why is this.

ANSWER